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The Daily Gamecock, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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Inside this week's Blitz

GOING FOR 200: USC vs. UAB

The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

VOL. 110, NO. 16 ● SINCE 1908



PASSING THE MIC

Longtime leader of student section moves on, hands role to student body vice president

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Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Walking around the Horseshoe Wednesday evening, Brent McCraw sticks out like a sore thumb.

Known to most only as Mic Man, the Williams-Brice student section's outgoing hollerer-in-chief is drawing stares, dressed to a tee in his recognizable Gamecock getup — perhaps for the last time.

While he's become a gameday staple in half a decade of high-stepping around the end zone, McCraw, 27, has grown up since he took on the role his senior year. He's graduated and married, with a job and — as of last Wednesday — a newborn baby.

So, much to the chagrin of the Gamecock faithful who have become accustomed to him leading Gamecock cheers, McCraw's moving on. But he's passing the baton on to the one of the biggest personalities on campus, Student Body Vice President Chase Mizzell.

Mizzell, who ran unopposed for vice president in the spring, is arguably the highest-profile student on campus, with a daily suit and bow tie so consistent they've inspired a parody Twitter account (@nosuitchase). His motivational speech at First Night Carolina last month grabbed the attention of the cheerleading coaches, who eagerly approached him about the job opening.

But Mizzell's got some large, Gamecock-embroidered shoes to fill.

After all, there's history behind the position.

Along with Cocky and the USC cheerleaders, various figures have led the USC student section for more than 20 years. It's not clear exactly how far back that history goes, but McCraw took up the mantle in 2007.

A fourth-year hotel, restaurant and tourism management student at the time, McCraw and his friends would go to basketball games and try to pump up the crowd on their own.

The Mic Man at football games then was largely unpopular with students, McCraw said. As had been tradition, he wore only a T-shirt and jeans and served less as a mascot and more as a vocal cheerleader.

When that Mic Man stepped down, McCraw's friends encouraged him to try out. After some convincing, he auditioned, with the idea of putting together a costume and creating a character that could be easily identified.

The cheerleading coaches loved the idea and he got the job. But as he'd anticipated, the transition was rough.

"The first year had a lot of struggles," he said. "A lot of people had that (negative) perception of a Mic Man, knowing what was there before."

His costume, a new addition to the role, drew criticism from some as well.

MIC MAN ● A3



Some people may not like me. Some people think I'm crazy or weird or dumb ... but I think people could at least respect that there was passion and enjoyment for what I do."

— Brent McCraw

Police arrest Cook-Out shooting suspect

Man found in Lowcountry Wednesday

Thad Moore
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The search for a suspect in July's shooting at Cook-Out stretched from the Upstate to the Lowcountry before it ended Wednesday.

When police issued warrants for their suspect's arrest last week, they thought he had connections to Greenville or Spartanburg.

But they ultimately found him in Hampton County, near the state's southernmost tip, when Billy Joe Downs Jr., 22, of Greenville, turned himself in at the sheriff's office there, according to Columbia police spokeswoman Jennifer Timmons.

Why Downs was in the Lowcountry is unclear, Timmons said.

Downs was taken by the State Law Enforcement Division to Columbia, where he was charged with attempted murder, attempted armed robbery, discharging a firearm into an occupied conveyance and possession of a weapon during the commission of a

SHOOTING ● A2

Carolina Alert test largely successful

Email, text message success rates slip slightly

Amanda Coyne
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With the crow of a gamecock, Carolina Alert's periodic test began Thursday afternoon, seeing new technology and more users than in past semesters while encountering familiar bumps in the road.

Only five of 46,585 users registered with the system were unreachable by either text message or email during the test, which began around midday and stretched through the next four hours, according to Cpl. Vinny Bocchino of the USC Division of Law Enforcement and Safety.

What caused those failures is unknown, Bocchino said.

The system sent 73,443 email alerts to users; 70,443 went through successfully.

Though the success rate of the email alert system dropped to 96 percent from last semester's 97.5 percent, the number of email subscribers rose by nearly 12,500 between the two tests.

Bocchino attributed many of the failed attempts to bad data and incorrectly entered email addresses.

TEST ● A3

WEATHER

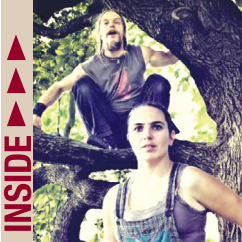
Friday

85° 64°

Saturday

88° 67°

MIX



INSIDE

Faun Fables

The Washington-based band will play Conundrum Music Hall tonight with Jackaroo.

See page B1

VIEWPOINTS



Dangerous Games

Columnist Stephen Moore says football is risky and players should be paid more for putting themselves on the line.

See page A9

SPORTS



Not convinced

USC coach Steve Spurrier said the offense still has work to do, even after an impressive showing against ECU.

See page B2



Robyn Blanton / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

(Left to right) Lizzie Dement, Ajit Randhawa and Sandra Greene discuss how attitudes and perceptions surrounding religion have changed since 9/11 in Capstone’s Carolina Room.

Panel talks post-9/11 perceptions

Students, community members discuss how tragedy affects religious groups

Kyle Kovalchek
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Last night, Capstone House’s Carolina Room was home to the latest installment of a series of dialogues on diversity hosted by EMPOWER, a social justice and diversity program at USC focused on diversity education.

The event, entitled “Navigating the Future in Light of the Past: Attitudes Post 9/11,” saw a number of students, faculty and staff share their thoughts and feelings on the changes that the events of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks brought upon the U.S.

Attendees sat in groups and discussed questions that urged them to recall and reflect on 9/11, asking them where they were when the attacks took place and how their lives — and those of their friends — were

affected.

Their discussions were followed by a panel that included Ajit Randhawa, a Sikh and a retired professor who was moved to write a book about religion and faith after the attacks.

“I was sitting in a doctor’s office with my wife when I saw two planes going into the towers,” Randhawa said. “That cannot be explained in any rational way to this day. At that time, it triggered some thoughts in my mind.”

As the discussion moved to that of citizenship and national identity, Randhawa spoke of the conflicts that arose for him as American attitudes began, he said, to feel more xenophobic.

“There were instances when many Sikhs were attacked because of 9/11, thinking they are Muslims, without first asking, ‘What is the reason?’” he said. “I have been here long enough that I first consider myself an American and then an Indian. Being from India is fine, but I think that if I said I was from the Middle East, it could be a problem.”

The discussion saw a great deal of participation from those in attendance, including Dominick Donaldson, a fourth-year political science student, who said the youngest generation should lead the way in creating an accepting society.

“By virtue of the composition of our generation, we should be at the forefront of tolerance,” Donaldson said. “The important thing is that there are people our age who realize that we have to take an active stance about these things, because it doesn’t just come.”

That interaction and discussion is important to EMPOWER’s events, said Taylor Jones, a fourth-year applied mathematics and Spanish student, who served as the group’s team leader, so that they’re fun and interesting to the students who come.

“We try to make these as interactive as possible,” Jones said. “We know students go to lecture every day. We don’t want to be another one.”

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New program offers research funding

SPARC modeled after Magellan Scholar fellowships

Thad Moore
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USC will spend upwards of \$250,000 to improve graduate and doctoral-level research next semester.

The new program, dubbed Support to Promote the Advancement of Research and Creativity, or SPARC, will award \$5,000 grants to graduate and doctoral students starting next April.

Exactly how many the Office of Research will give isn’t yet clear, said Lauren Clark, USC’s research program coordinator, but the office expects to award about 50, depending on how many people apply.

In all, said Prakash

Nagarkatti, the vice president for research, about 5,000 students will be eligible to apply. The program is only open to students in any doctoral programs and in the master of fine arts and master of public history graduate curricula.

The fellowships were modeled after the popular Magellan Scholar program, which funds undergraduate research projects, Clark said.

Like the Magellan program, the new initiative will pay for students to buy materials, pay assistants and cover other expenses for their research projects, but it’ll give them more flexibility because students will receive the cash directly, Nagarkatti said.

The program, Nagarkatti said, will help students strengthen their

dissertations and theses, finish them faster, prepare them for national fellowship applications and encourage unique research.

But first, Nagarkatti said, they’ll have to write a three-page proposal and have it reviewed by faculty experts.

That, Nagarkatti said, is one of the program’s biggest benefits, because grant writing is “absolutely critical” to winning larger research grants down the road, like those from federal agencies, which account for the majority of USC’s research awards.

“They can elaborate on this grant from three pages to five pages or six pages and be able to compete nationally for major sources of funding to support their research and to support their tuition,” he said.

The grants will also pay for research expenses that

students would’ve normally paid for out of pocket, like travel.

“Sometimes they have to go for national or international travel — somebody goes to Mexico to study some art, literature, anthropology,” Nagarkatti said. “These grants can help them do all that kind of research, which otherwise we don’t have support for.”

The deadline for doing so is Jan. 30, 2013, and applicants will be required to attend a short training workshop beforehand. Awards will be announced April 12, 2013.

Four workshops are planned for this semester, and another two will be held in January, Clark said. The first is scheduled for Tuesday.

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SHOOTING ● Continued from A1

violent crime.

He is currently being held at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center; bond for his release will be set this morning, a representative of Columbia’s municipal court said.

Downs used to work at Cook-Out, where the victim was a manager, The Daily Gamecock reported in July.

The manager was in his car in the restaurant’s parking lot the morning of July 21 when a man approached him with a handgun and demanded money, according to Timmons.

The manager put his car in reverse and began to drive away, when the suspect took aim at the car and fired, grazing the victim’s shoulder.

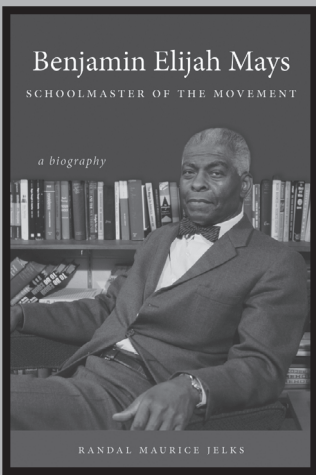
He was treated at a local hospital and later released.

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BENJAMIN ELIJAH MAYS

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MIC MAN ● Cont. from A1

Assembled with thrift store items he found over the years, it's evolved over time.

The outfit comprises a suit, bow tie, wig, sunglasses, visor (a nod to coach Steve Spurrier) and a jersey (he used to wear Jasper Brinkley's 52, and when Kenny McKinley died in September of 2010, he donned No. 11, in tribute). Pink socks have made appearances during October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Together, the various pieces make for an eclectic collection as stylishly loud as McCraw's third-down bellow, and at first, it caused quite the stir.

"The (Daily) Gamecock even ripped me a couple times," he said. "They thought I was too over-the-top, that I was crazy and that I was just a poor representation of our university."

But he took it all in stride, and as the years went by and new students came through, he became a fixture on the sideline. McCraw said his attitude was the main factor in the students embracing him.

"Some people may not like me. Some people think I'm crazy or weird or

dumb ... but I think people could at least respect that there was passion and enjoyment for what I do," he said.

Ron McGinty, USC's assistant cheerleading coach, credited McCraw's enthusiasm with helping make USC's student section one of the best in the nation.

"Brent did a great job," McGinty said. "He's been with us for quite a few years. He's very high energy; he brought a lot to the game atmosphere. We're hoping Chase is able to pick up right where Brent left off — be the focal point and keep the student section engaged and fired up."

For his part, Mizzell hopes he can emulate what he called a "phenomenal" intensity and spirit for a student section that's become accustomed to it.

"He poured his heart and passion and love for the Gamecocks into the role for five years and set a great example for what a Gamecock fan should be," Mizzell said.

The effect of that passion can't be understated, USC Athletics Director Ray Tanner said. Tanner emphasized the seriousness of the position and the influence Mic

Man — via the crowd — can have during a big-time situation.

"Mic Man needs to really understand what's going on on the field," he said. "I think it's an important role and takes an understanding of what's going on in the game. And keeping the students involved — it's a big deal."

Tanner said both the coaches and the players feed off the intensity, something he knows a thing or two about from his experience coaching the back-to-back College World Series-winning baseball team.

"If you could interview any of our players, I assure you they'd tell you we love it. It fires us up," Tanner said.

None as much as McCraw, though.

The memories of the last five years will stay with him forever, especially from exciting upsets against then-No. 4 Ole Miss in 2009 and against then-No. 1 Alabama in 2010.

Though he'll miss having "the best seat in the house," he's looking forward to watching a game from the Williams-Brice Stadium stands with his wife and, eventually, his son.

"I'm not a young guy," McCraw said. "I graduated school in 2007 ... Sometimes people just don't know when to step away. And I just kind of felt like it was time for me."

He shared one last home game — last week against East Carolina — with Mizzell, to introduce Mizzell and get people used to the new presence on stage.

But now McCraw is finished.

Which raises the question: What will happen to the old Mic Man ensemble? Mizzell's working on his own, after all.

"I'm thinking about getting it framed, I think it'd be cool to hang up at my house," McCraw said. "And if my son grows up and goes to USC..."

His voice trailed off, as he gazed pensively down at the bricks of the Horseshoe. Then he looked up, flashing the same grin he's worn for years while leading the wave or doing the "Bernie" with Cocky.

"Who knows?"

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TEST ● Continued from A1

But the system had issues sending emails to many users in the School of Medicine. While these users' inboxes initially marked the email alert as spam, measures were quickly taken to ensure the messages would be received, Bocchino said.

"We had to whitelist the emails," Bocchino said. "Some email networks will mark a bulk email as spam, but it will go through if you mark the message as whitelisted. Most of [the inboxes] should have received an email before the test even ended."

The success rate of text alerts dropped slightly, too. This semester 98.1 percent of text messages made it to users' phones, down from 98.4 percent in the spring. The number of text subscribers also increased by 9,153 to 49,984 between the two tests, and many of the unsuccessful attempts were also caused by the same issues facing the email system.

"The reason for a number of the unsuccessful attempts were from incorrect data, for example people entering landline phone numbers, which will not receive text messages," Bocchino said.

Newly installed indoor alarms in residence halls also saw their first round of tests Thursday.

The indoor alarm systems are currently in Harper/Elliott Colleges, Woodrow College, Patterson Hall and DeSaussure College and are the newest additions to the Carolina Alert system.

"We started installing indoor alarms just this summer," Bocchino said. "In an emergency, they would play the same alert as you would hear outside."

The university hopes to put this system in two additional residence halls in the near future and will include the \$11,000 system upgrade in every future residence hall fire alarm system update, Bocchino said.

Alerts on Carolina Alert's Twitter and Facebook accounts were issued successfully.

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Mic Man memorable part of USC football

In an interview for today’s front-page farewell profile story, retiring Mic Man Brent McCraw mentioned that when he took over the job five years ago, he caught a lot of flak for his unconventional, “over-the-top” outfit and “crazy” personality.

He said many — including The Daily Gamecock’s then-editorial board — ranted that he looked silly on the sideline and “didn’t represent our university.”

Well, we’d like to take this opportunity to fully rescind the editorial in question. In fact, we’d like to take the complete opposite stand.

As Mic Man for the past five years, McCraw has represented our university’s greatest qualities and has given his all every Saturday pumping up the crowd, dancing unabashedly and leading what has become one of the greatest student sections in the nation.

The microphone now goes to Student Body Vice President Chase Mizzell. McCraw’s will be a tough act to follow, especially with students used to McCraw and known for their sometimes-vicious tenacity.

Mizzell may well take some flak, just as McCraw did. But change is difficult, and each Mic Man brings his own personality and something different to the stage. Mizzell will grow into the role. But before he officially takes over on Saturday, we want to thank you on behalf of the student body, Brent. You’ve inspired us each and every game, whether the team was upsetting Alabama or getting whomped by Arkansas.

Students after us may never get the chance to witness it, but for those of us who’ve spent our time here watching you high-step across the end zone to “Sandstorm,” you were an unforgettable part of the USC experience.



Players underpaid for risky game

Athletes’ injuries warrant higher salaries

On Saturday, our Gamecock football players will risk their lives against the University of Alabama at Birmingham. That statement is not hyperbole. Just last weekend Devon Walker, a defensive back for Tulane University, broke his neck making a tackle and had to be revived on the field. His case serves as a necessary reminder of just how dangerous and violent college football can be.

The business side of the game has never been more lucrative. Conference realignments are creating bigger matchups and the impending playoff will make for huge TV and endorsement deals. There is no way the NCAA and its member schools can defend absorbing all the profit when the players are the ones facing the tremendous danger.

Dave Duerson was a safety in the NFL who retired in 1993 after 10 years. In February 2011, Duerson shot himself in the chest, and in a posthumous note he asked his loved ones to have his brain checked for chronic traumatic encephalopathy. CTE, as it is more commonly known, is a degenerative brain condition commonly associated with multiple concussions. Duerson did in fact have CTE, and a Boston University study of the brains of former football players found alarming rates of the disease. And this condition is not confined to



Steven Moore
Third-year political science student

professional players. Owen Thomas, a University of Pennsylvania player, was found to have CTE after he hung himself at the age of 21. A 2007 study found that more than 25 percent of the football players surveyed had more than three concussions in their career.

Some have argued that the sport shouldn’t even be played at such a large level at public universities, given its inherent risks. But players, for the most part, know what’s at stake and are still willing to play. And at a school like USC football has become such a big part of the college experience that it would be extremely difficult to outlaw it. So the NCAA must properly compensate players for their services and the hazards associated with it.

Scholarships are simply not enough. They don’t pay for the many extra costs that all college students incur like a plane ticket home or a night on the town. The SEC became the first conference to bring in \$1 billion in 2010. Our athletic department’s revenue totaled \$83 million over the last five years with more than \$3 million in profit. We could afford to split at least 1 or 2 million dollars of that among the athletes.

Someone in the NCAA should figure out a revenue sharing system that would allow players to be paid proportional to the amount of money they bring in as a whole but equally among all the member universities so as not to give an advantage to the school with bigger budgets. But no matter what happens, it is clear our players cannot continue to risk everything Saturday after Saturday for nothing.

Music industry binding force despite changes

Technology further enables connections

The music world is changing. As technology advances, so does the way we listen to and buy music. Over the past decade, we’ve gone from purchasing CDs at a store to buying a track on iTunes and watching it immediately download into our playlists. We can specify what we listen to, how we listen to it and in what order.

In many ways, the way we listen to and engage with music now is a less tactile and special process than it was 20 years ago.

Because of this, many of those in the music business and many everyday users feel we as consumers are losing touch with music. It’s becoming impersonal, they say, and the connections a performer feels with his or her fan base is gone. Instead of going into a record store and searching for the newest release, people just Google it.

As a society, we may obtain our music from different sources than we used to, but there is still that need to pull together and hear it live. Even with YouTube, we still long to find that unknown voice singing in a subway station or at an open-mic night. At music festivals, fans brave all sorts of weather and delays just to hear their favorite band play. Bands, likewise, want to find venues where they can see the people they play for. Instead of feeling disconnected from the music world, we are instead learning how to come together and keep the personality in music.

But technology doesn’t just pull us apart from music; in some ways it draws us closer. We are no longer limited to what we can physically see or hear. If we can’t get to a concert, chances are we can find it streaming on the Internet.



Grace Shepard
First-year music student

America must strive for unity, put differences aside

9/11 legacy should be remembered every day, not just on anniversary

American tragedies these days seem to become mirrors of each other. Perhaps it’s because we’ve gotten to the point where the only connection we can see in both ourselves and other citizens is our mutual sadness. A reflected reminder that we might not be so different is as unifying as it is tragic, and we, as Americans, have never been more united than we were on Sept. 11, 2001.

Yet here we are, 11 years later. Our once-staggering pride transformed into an annual eclipse, crossing the horizon and obscuring our view of the national division we have grown accustomed to. For just one day in mid-September, we stand together. And then like clockwork, the moment passes and our conflicts and contentions are restored. We resume the position of a nation divided.

In honor of the attacks, Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama called for a cease fire in

their campaigns for the day. In one of the most bitter elections Americans have ever seen, refraining from using attack ads and venomous political rhetoric was seen as a solemn sign of respect, not a common courtesy. But why do we and our leaders put our differences aside for just for one day? Why not honor those fallen every day by consistently striving to create a nation that those we lost can smile down upon?

This year, Twitter feeds and Facebook statuses were repeating the same sentiment over and over: Never forget. And surely, no one will. An act of terror committed on such a grand scale radiates throughout the entire globe, reaching even those completely unaffected by the events. But the point is not to “not forget,” the point is to remember — a minuscule difference of large importance.

In order for this nation to leave its current state



Molly McCarthy
Second-year public relations student

of stagnancy behind, we must always remember that despite distinct differences, we are all Americans fighting for the common good. It just seems to take a tragedy, or the anniversary of one, to remind us. As the war rages on to bring justice to those who lost their lives, the effort is becoming futile and conditions in our own country are deteriorating. With the current unemployment rate and the debt skyrocketing, it is all too easy to look at those in power, and even those around us on the street, in detest. Blame Wall Street, blame the government, blame the narrow-minded Republicans and the delusional Democrats for the negative state of the nation.

But if we only truly remembered every day the shared pain in our fellow citizens’ hearts when the towers fell, it would become immediately apparent, as it does once a year, that the deaths of those killed are worth far more than this. Because even though we stand united in sadness, we can still stand united.

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock’s Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community.

All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via email to gamecockeditor@sc.edu. Letters must be 200 to 300 words

in length and include the author’s name, year in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author’s name and position.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

About The Daily Gamecock

The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina.

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CORRECTIONS

A graphic in Thursday’s paper misstated the University of South Carolina’s ranking in the U.S. News & World Report’s annual college rankings for 2013. USC is ranked No. 115. The Daily Gamecock regrets the error.



Dawn McCarthy has held a lot of jobs in her lifetime. The Spokane, Wash., native has studied dance and theater and worked as a toy maker and an illustrator. Since 1997, McCarthy’s been making music for a living as a member of experimental folk group Faun Fables. The band returns to Columbia this weekend with a show at Conundrum Music Hall tonight. Although McCarthy did not plan to pursue music professionally, she said it has always been part of her life. “I grew up with a musical family, so I’ve enjoyed it from the beginning,” McCarthy said. Both of McCarthy’s parents played piano, and her siblings played instruments. The singer said music carries happy connotations for her. “I guess I can thank my family for giving me that,” she said. “It always felt like a magical thing and a fun thing.” While the vocalist went on to discover other artistic avenues, her love of singing never went away. “Singing was always there. It was instinctive,” she said. The name Faun Fables is inspired by several different elements that share a common motif. McCarthy said Claude Debussy’s composition “Afternoon of a Faun” and Vaslav Nijinsky’s ballet of the same name were some of her favorite pieces growing up. A childhood nickname also played into the band’s choice of moniker. “When I was really little, my brother gave me the nickname ‘Dawn the Faun,’” McCarthy said.

The singer originally planned to create a book called “Faun Fables” while she was studying sequential art in Manhattan, but chose to use the name for her musical endeavors instead. McCarthy describes Faun Fables’ sound as “song telling,” a term she coined to explain the relationship between storytelling and song. The singer said the group’s tunes are an “ode to oral traditions” and her performance style mirrors the ancient folklore traditions of storytelling in Iceland and Africa. A Faun Fables show is an interactive experience for the audience. McCarthy said the group has used props in the past and tries to find ways to use the space of a room differently. “We break down the fourth wall,” McCarthy said. “We think of the show as a full spiritual experience.” In addition to touring with fellow band member Nils Frykdahl, McCarthy’s two young daughters are traveling with Faun Fables, though they will not be joining the act on stage. McCarthy said it’s been a bit of a challenge having her children on the road with her, but she expects the family will settle into a routine within the next few weeks. “We’re trying to find the rhythm with it all,” she said. “I’m willing to embrace chaos as part of it.” McCarthy said some of her best childhood memories are of the trips she took with her family, so she has enjoyed seeing the country with her own kids. Faun Fables will be joined by roots rockers



Photos courtesy of Faun Fables

Jackaroe and solo artist the Good Witch. Doors open at 8 p.m. Friday, and the show begins at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

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Avett Brothers craft contemplative album



‘The Carpenter’ lacks carefree energy, plays on honest emotions

Erin Shaw
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

If you ever go to an Avett Brothers concert, one thing you’ll notice — besides the absurd amount of plaid — is the diverse crowd. There are the young teenagers discreetly lighting a joint in the back of the pack, the old couple awkwardly holding hands and swaying and everyone else in between. That’s because the trio band from North Carolina provides a mix of country, folk and

bluegrass that evokes a sense of community and commonality that appeals to a broad audience. The Sept. 11 release of their seventh album “The Carpenter” continues with this thread. In the first song, “The Once and Future Carpenter,” the theme of community is explicitly expressed in the lyrics “We’re all in this together / If I live the life I’m given, I won’t be scared to die.” Frontmen brothers Scott and Seth Avett and bassist Rob Crawford confront issues of life and death in “The Carpenter” in a very personal way. Since 2011, the band has been dealing with the illness of Crawford’s daughter, who was diagnosed with brain cancer. The new songs still resonate with their usual honesty and openheartedness, but there is a fresh vulnerability expressed in the hauntingly sweet tracks “Winter in My Heart” and “Through My Prayers.” In “Live and Die,” a prereleased single, the band sings of resilience and relatability while trying to understand death. While the band members look inward and confront their own mortality, listeners can connect emotionally to the lyrics “Live and die / We’re the same, you and I / We’re the same.” Like 2009’s album “I and Love and You,” there is more time devoted to slower acoustic tracks. Only the louder sounds of “Paul Newman Versus the Demons” and “Pretty Girl from Michigan” deviate from this approach. Avett Brothers fans who enjoyed “I and Love and You” will enjoy “The Carpenter.” While it lacks some of the carefree energy and raw enthusiasm of their earlier albums, “The Carpenter” is contemplative and thought-provoking in a way those were not. And it’s worth a second listen. Or a third.



Photos courtesy of MCT Campus

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Parker Jennette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Staff Writer Mary Cathryn Armstrong introduces some staple personalities of the downtown bars

Mary Cathryn Armstrong
MARMSTRONG@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

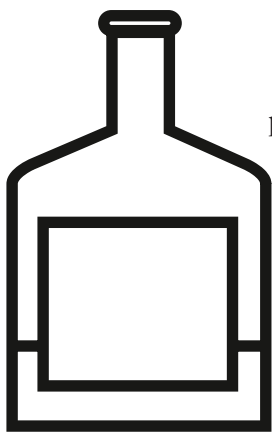
The Girl Who Just Wants to Dance

1

How You'll Know Her: If in the open, she'll be the one standing at the crosswalk screaming, "Guys, I just want to dance!" at the top of her lungs to a posse that's trying to pretend they don't know her. If indoors, you can spot her wildly swinging her vodka-cranberry in the air, sloshing half-melted ice cubes and cheap liquor down the dress of her best friend, whose patience is starting to run thin. This girl will be the first to hit the dance floor (or any open area where she hasn't already spilled her drink) and loudly declare any combination of the following phrases: "Oh girl! This is my song!"; "This is the best song of all time!" or "I want to have Bieber babies!" This is usually done while gleefully trying to force said friend's limp arms up into the air in celebration, and the song is usually by Rihanna or Drake. She will then light up the dance floor with a number of gyrating "sexy" dance moves until she eventually lures in her male counterpart, Air-Humping Guy. But take heed: These two will be moving and lip-locking in their own little world, completely oblivious to you. So unless you want to be in the middle of their groovy sandwich, provide plenty of space.



The Guy Who Keeps Buying Shots



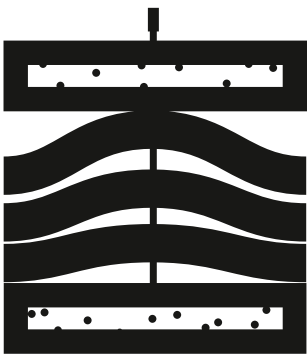
How You'll Know Him: His identifiers are a little bit easier to spot. He'll be the one posted up at the bar all night with the words "just put it on my tab" on repeat. This guy loves everything from Dirty Girl Scouts to Porn Stars. (Yes, those are just shots. Relax.) And guess what? He's going to buy you one. This is the guy who runs into the kid he used to play blocks with in kindergarten or his teaching assistant from English 285 and starts spreading shots like the plague — a really strong, sweet plague that comes in a little plastic cup but ironically will still have the same negative effects on your stomach. The bar is littered with the evidence of his excellent time, and he probably has more varieties of liquor in him than the entire right side of Green's Beverages. Whether or not he wakes up with a bank overdraft or even makes it to that 8 a.m. psychology class is still up for debate, but hey, you only live once (or "YOLO" as our hero will say as he raises the shot to his lips).

2

The Girl Eating Pita Pit

3

How You'll Know Her: In the wee hours of the morning, you'll see this girl out in the wild, sitting on the ground and growling at anyone brave enough to come near her. Because this will most likely be toward the end of the night, her hair will be slightly mussed and her mascara may be a little runny from tears shed due to her "mean" boyfriend who offered her a Busch instead of Bud Light. But on her long, wobbly walk home she has found solace in the one thing that has never let her down: the pita. As she squats on the steps in front of the establishment, her jaw unhinges and she attacks her Dagwood with more fervor than Bear Grylls into a freshly caught salmon. Sure, her face will soon be glistening with a cocktail of lettuce, onions and dribbles of hot sauce. Sure, she's probably eaten just as much wrapper as she has pita. But no passerby can deny this girl looks satisfied. Or that her dress is ruined.



The Guy Who's Falling Asleep



How You'll Know Him: Have you ever been having a conversation with someone who's looking at you but their eyes are focused on some spot just above or behind you? Yeah, that's this guy, five seconds before he falls asleep at the urinal. The early signs of warning include slurring speech and swaying, which will eventually give way to heavy eyes that begin to droop and sag with each passing hour. He bobs around the back of Pavlov's, pretending to be swaying to the music but in actuality, he's just testing the area for objects to lean on. When he finds nothing, he chooses one of two options: this guy will either a) lean against the wall, beer bottle in hand, until someone notices he's missing (they won't) or b) stagger up to an empty bar stool and perch his head atop the beer bottle at the perfect angle so he remains sitting up but doesn't have to stay awake. Both are great choices. Will he wake up eventually? Will he ruin that Southern Tide? Yes and yes.

4

The Girl Who's Turning 21

5

How You'll Know Her: This girl will be covered in an assortment of whistling, furry light-up birthday paraphernalia from boas to tiaras and possibly a handmade sign just in case you didn't know that, yes, it is her birthday. She'll be followed by a similarly dressed gaggle of girls (minus the tiara, because you know, it's HER day) who will announce to anyone and everyone that their best friend is turning 21. She takes shots on the bar with no shame and even demands that everyone pay for her drinks. She may not remember her name, but she does remember it's her 21st. She will also shove her way into the long line at the bathroom, knocking any other waiting ladies out of the way while shouting, "It's my birthday!" as her one excuse. Her eyes will probably be glazed. At some point, she will also proudly march up to the Columbia police parked outside of the Exxon and demand they card her. Unfortunately, they'll also card her friend, who will be ticketed for underage drinking. And so ends the magical evening.



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HOROSCOPES

Aries

There's way too much work, especially for the next two days. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, but is it as fun? Take time to acknowledge successes and failures, and learn from them all.

Leo

The next phase is good for making deals, even in the face of some resistance. Competition provides the motivation. But do it for love, not money. Passion engulfs you.

Sagittarius

Take a few days to firm up career details. Be clear on what your objectives are. It's time to leave misconceptions behind. Reconfirm what you heard to avoid misunderstandings.

Taurus

Do what you can to help the others stay relaxed and calm. If it's any help to know, you're especially cute now, and romance goes well. Avoid the flimsy. Accept a sweet, solid deal.

Virgo

You're on top of the world, looking down on opportunity. Don't let your head swell, and watch out for conflicting orders and hidden agendas. Fix up the place.

Libra

Finish up projects you've been avoiding today and tomorrow. Don't get sidetracked. Find assistance from a great coach, as needed, and move up one level.

Aquarius

Your theory gets challenged. Don't resist it; learn from the experience. Others may know better after all. Stay out of your own way. Changes call for budget revisions.

Cancer

Entering a few days of learning. You're especially good with words right now. There's more money coming your way -- if you'll work for it. Communication provides a key.

Scorpio

Your friends are grateful for your contributions and are ready to add their grain of sand. Exert yourself. Receive accolades for good service. A touch of glitter might be just the thing.

Pisces

Consult a good strategist or friend. Use your experience to soothe ragged nerves. You solve another impossible problem. Accept a nice bonus.

THE SCENE



TODAY

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TODAY

FAUN FABLES, JACKAROE, THE GOOD WITCH

8 p.m. doors / 9 p.m. show, \$10

Conundrum Music Hall, 626 Meeting St.

TODAY

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TOMORROW

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Conundrum Music Hall, 626 Meeting St.

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

09/14/12

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1 "The Fiddler" painter Chagall

5 Brooch part

10 Scraped (out)

14 Miami River locale

15 Postal scale unit

16 Ristorante bottle

17 Capital of 62-Across

19 Victorious cry

20 Refines, in a way

21 List-ending abbr.

22 Coffee bar stack

23 Biol. branch

25 Too pooped to pop

27 First ones to spot the king's ghost, in "Hamlet"

31 "Stop bugging me!"

34 Eight, in Essen

35 Bellyache

37 Yo-Yo's strings

38 Pronoun on the briny

39 Mark Twain, e.g.

41 Overly permissive

42 Insanely cold

44 Icelandic work that influenced Tolkien

45 Swelter

46 In any way

48 Closed, as a sleeping bag

50 Sealing aids

52 Greenish-blue

53 "Bad Reputation" singer

55 "___ only money!"

57 Mental grasp

61 Clueless

62 Where "The Lord of the Rings" movies were filmed

64 Actress Teri

65 Bridge call

66 Activist Brockovich

67 Dope (out)

68 Bother a lot

69 Stiff hair

DOWN

1 Levels the playing field?

2 Cutting-in word

3 Grate

4 Amass

5 Simple soup

6 Tote with difficulty

7 Starting money of a sort

8 Dilbert creator Adams

9 One may be seen behind an ear

10 Sinister stare

11 Capital of 62-Across

12 Sooner State city

13 Puts on

18 Strong urge

24 Italian director Sergio

26 TV's "The Amazing ___"

27 Scary nestful

28 Allergic reaction

29 With 30-Down, capitals of 62-Across?

30 See 29-Down

32 Oddball

33 Deceived

36 1976 Olympics headlines name

39 Coach

40 Reference site for travelers

43 Images used by Wii players

45 With "the," band with the 2006 remix album "Love"

Solutions from 09/13/12

B	L	I	N	G		A	C	D	C		A	M	B	I
L	I	N	E	R		N	O	I	R		C	A	E	N
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M	E	A	S	U	R	I	N	G	S	T	I	C	K	
P	R	Y		C	E	E		T	I	V	O	E	D	
			S	H	A		P	L	A	N		P	E	A
C	U	S	T	O	M	B	U	I	L	T		O	P	T
O	N	O	R			O	M	E			F	L	E	E
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C	L	E	O		A	S	S	N		R	I	T	Z	Y
P	E	L	T		D	A	L	I		I	N	T	E	L
I	D	L	E		S	T	E	N		M	E	E	S	E

47 Keep under control

49 Metamorphosis stage

51 Instructions opener

53 Crying spells

54 Old Testament twin

56 Party loot

58 Flower in Bern?

59 Make a wool cap, say

60 "Mother Ireland" writer O'Brien

63 When repeated,

Hey Students!

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Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

09/14/12

		5		4		7		
				9				4
	7		1		8		9	
		9		2			3	
4								8
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	4		7		6		2	
2								
		6		5		1		

Level

1 2 3 4

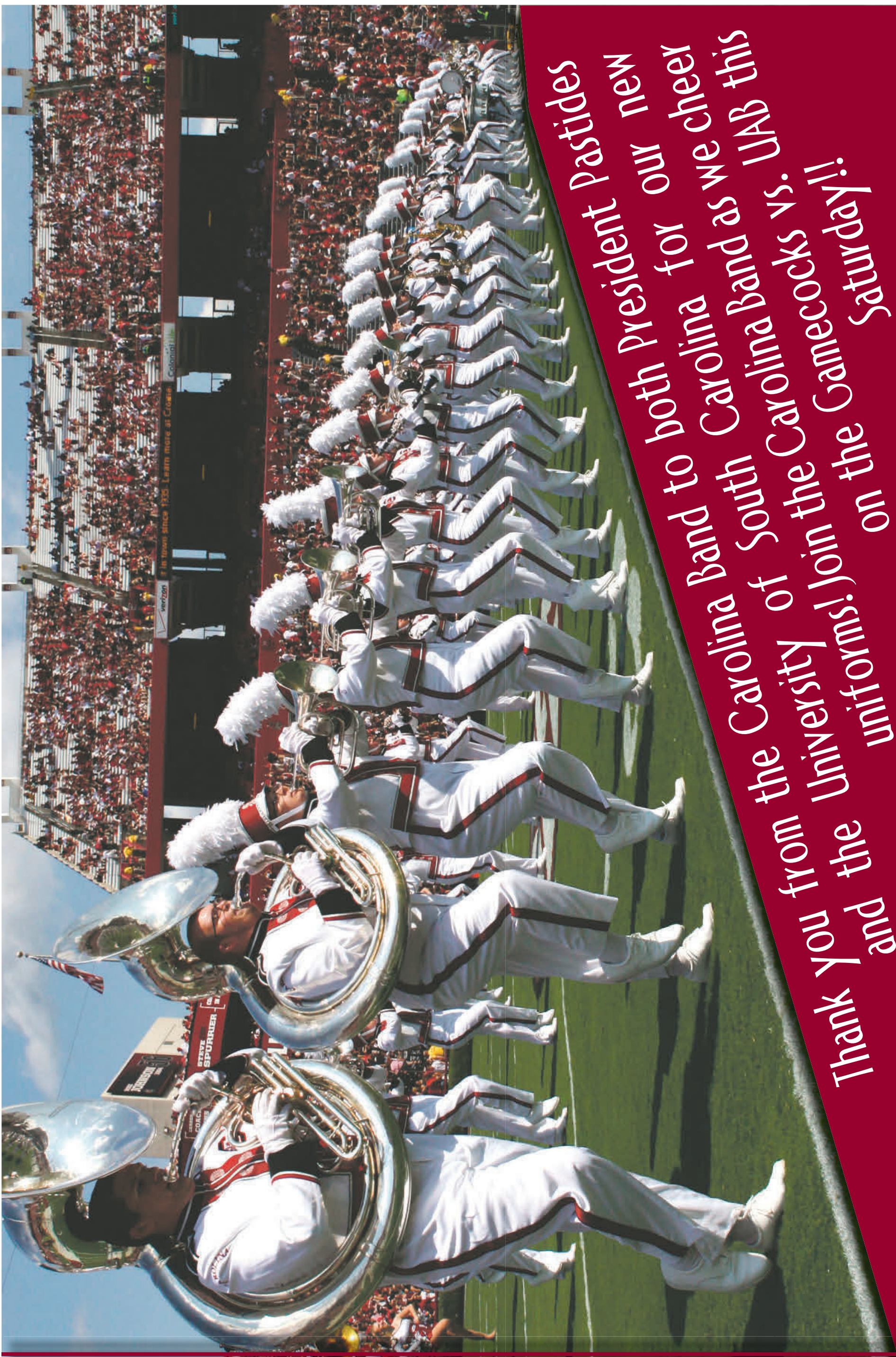
How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 9/13/12

2	7	4	9	3	8	6	5	1
5	8	6	7	1	2	4	3	9
9	3	1	5	6	4	2	7	8
3	9	2	8	5	6	1	4	7
4	1	8	2	7	9	5	6	3
6	5	7	1	4	3	8	9	2
1	6	9	3	2	5	7	8	4
7	4	3	6	8	1	9	2	5
8	2	5	4	9	7	3	1	6

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Thank you from the University of South Carolina Band to both President Pastides and the uniforms! Join the Gamecocks vs. UAB this Saturday!!



GOING FOR 200

Spurrier, Lattimore go for milestones versus UAB

Kyle Heck
KHECK@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

It has been a long journey for Steve Spurrier since he first took the field as a college head coach in 1987 at Duke University.

He brought Duke football to relevance in his three short years there, winning ACC Coach of the Year honors two of those years. Spurrier then took over the head job at his alma mater, Florida, where he won the Heisman Trophy in 1966 as a quarterback.

At UF Spurrier famously implemented his “Fun ‘n’ Gun” offense to perfection, winning six SEC Championships and one national championship in his 12 seasons with the Gators.

After a brief, unsuccessful two-year stint with the NFL’s Washington Redskins, Spurrier’s journey found its way to Columbia in 2005. In his eight seasons with the Gamecocks, Spurrier has brought the team to unprecedented heights, culminating in the school’s first SEC Eastern division title in 2010 and a program-high 11-win season last year.

And now, the 67-year-old is poised to reach another milestone Saturday if the

Gamecocks can knock off the University of Alabama-Birmingham. If USC gets the win, Spurrier will become the 22nd Division I coach to reach 200 career coaching wins, something he doesn’t take a whole lot of pride in.

“That’s not really that big of a deal,” said Spurrier, who has a 197-75-2 career record. “There is a bunch of dudes who have won 200 games, so I don’t know how you brag about that too much. That just means you’ve coached quite a few years and were fortunate enough to stay healthy and not get fired.”

While Spurrier may barely raise an eyebrow at 200 wins, his son, Steve Spurrier Jr., the wide receivers coach at USC, is a little more impressed with

such an achievement.

“It’s pretty impressive,” Spurrier Jr. said. “It is kind of a cool accomplishment, it really is; it puts him up there with the top coaches. It’s cool that he lays low about it. To him, it is not the biggest accomplishment that he wants to have. He has never been a guy that has gotten excited about personal accomplishments.”

Spurrier echoed those statements Tuesday, saying his eyes are on bigger and better things.

“I think a bigger deal would be when we, hopefully, get eight more (wins) to win the most here (at USC),” Spurrier said. “That’s sort of a neat deal because no one has ever done it.”

Spurrier includes his three

years with the United States Football League Tampa Bay Bandits and the two years with the Redskins in regards to his record so, according to him, all of the fuss this week is for naught as he won his 200th game in 2006.

Regardless, Spurrier won’t be the only one facing uncharted territory Saturday. Junior tailback Marcus Lattimore needs one more touchdown to set the school’s career touchdown record held by George Rogers and Harold Green.

“Just to be up there with them is an honor,” Lattimore said. “Just have to keep it going and try to break it.”

As for Spurrier, he seemed a little more impressed with Lattimore’s accomplishments than his own.

“For a guy that hasn’t even played two full years yet, it’s nice for him to have that record here pretty soon,” Spurrier said.

Despite the personal achievements likely to be set Saturday, it doesn’t compare to the more important milestone both Spurrier and Lattimore have on their minds.

“Personal goals of total wins have not been my thing,” Spurrier said. “Trying to win some championships is most important. That’s something we haven’t done here yet. So if we can walk out of Atlanta a winner, I’ll be a happy Gamecock.”

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USC vs. UAB

Saturday, September 15, 2012 at Williams-Brice Stadium

OFFENSE

Passing not entirely solved

Spurrier not convinced with air attack despite ECU performance

Isabelle Khurshudyan
IKHURSHUDYAN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

After tallying just one reception all of last season, sophomore wide receiver Damiere Byrd's disappointment over his personal production was in his head throughout the entire offseason. "I used that as motivation," Byrd said. With a 53-yard catch on the first drive of the 48-10 win over East Carolina, Byrd's sting from 2011 was wiped from his memory. The long pass also quelled the concerns about the passing game, as the Gamecocks finished with 397 yards in the air, all starting with quarterback Dylan Thompson's completion to Byrd. Though it marked a significant improvement from the 67 yards passing at Vanderbilt, head coach Steve Spurrier wasn't entirely sold on his offense, pointing out all of the ways it can improve this week, even though no one seems to know who will be

the starting quarterback. Usual starter Connor Shaw is recovering from a deep shoulder bruise he suffered in the season opener. On his call-in show on Thursday night, Spurrier said Shaw would be a game-time decision again this week. "We threw a lot of balls that we had a chance to hit that didn't quite hit," Spurrier said. "Our pass route running was not real good so we're still working on it to see if we can become a good passing team. Again, we haven't proved too much yet. We'll find out if we can throw against these guys." After Vanderbilt, Spurrier said he wasn't able to evaluate the performance of the receiving corps because there weren't enough passes thrown to be caught, but Byrd said the receivers worked on not peeking before their breaks in the routes and on getting their "full depth." "We definitely want to keep it going. Every game, I feel like our offense needs that one play to spark momentum," Byrd said. "The more completions you throw,

the more passes you get to throw and the more guys get the ball, so it flows one way or the other pretty quickly," wide receivers coach Steve Spurrier Jr. said. Byrd and wide receiver Bruce Ellington said it doesn't make a difference which quarterback starts for the receivers in the preparation during the week. Byrd went so far as to say he didn't even know which quarterbacks were throwing during practice. "We never really know who's under center until after the play is over," Byrd said. "I can never really tell who is back there." Ellington, who finished second in receiving against ECU with four catches for 63 yards, said he's felt more comfortable in the offense this season after practicing against the USC secondary all summer. He also gained 12 pounds in the offseason, going from 185 to 197, so he said he can block and be more physical now. "Last year, I didn't really know where people were going to be and how people were going to play me. Watching film,

I learned that when it's an inside route, not peeking and looking inside before I turn," Ellington said. "I think he decided, 'I want to really try to see how good I can become in football, so I better be there all summer with the guys, throwing the ball around,' and this, that and the other," Spurrier said. "He did have an excellent game last week." As for who will be throwing the ball Saturday, Spurrier said he wouldn't consider starting Thompson to let Shaw rest and heal for SEC-opponent Missouri because he doesn't want to discount UAB as an opponent. He's also not convinced of his own squad after just two games. "That's the only thing we need to worry about is trying to play the best we can, try to improve in a lot of areas that we are very mediocre and see if we can't become a good team soon," Spurrier said.

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Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Wide receiver Damiere Byrd (3) had two catches against East Carolina, including a 53-yard pass from quarterback Dylan Thompson. He had just one reception last season.

Shaw a game-time decision again for Saturday

Spurrier reflects on early coaching in anticipation of 200th win

Kyle Heck
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For the second game in a row, the starting quarterback for South Carolina won't be known until gameday. USC coach Steve Spurrier said on his weekly call-in show Thursday that it is still a wait-and-see process with Connor Shaw, who is out with a deep bone bruise on his shoulder. "Connor threw the ball around a little bit today," Spurrier said. "The trainers and doctors told him not to throw too much, but I expect him to throw it around a little bit more tomorrow. He hasn't been quite 100 percent yet but there is still a chance he might get there. We'll see how he feels Saturday morning." If Shaw cannot go Saturday, the Gamecocks will again turn to sophomore Dylan Thompson, who filled in nicely for Shaw last week against East Carolina, throwing for 330 yards and three touchdowns. Spurrier said Thompson has "done fine" this week during practice and is hoping for a little more support from the offensive line, which he said is struggling a bit with the new emphasis on pass protection. "Sometimes as coaches we don't realize that our players go to classes every day of the week," Spurrier said. "They have a lot of stuff on their plate, and as coaches all we do is sit over there and look at ball plays all day. We know what's going on, but they have a lot more to do, so we have to be good teachers when we have time to do that." **Spurrier shows appreciation to 200 college wins:** A couple of days after showing no pleasure in joining the 200 career wins club, saying "a bunch of dudes have won 200 games," Spurrier admitted he has been lucky to reach the mark. "I know how fortunate and blessed I've been to have been around excellent players, assistant coaches, athletic directors ... that gave us a chance to do that," Spurrier said.

Spurrier said he remembers the score from the first game he ever coached as the head man, a 21-17 victory over the Boston Breakers of the United States Football League when he was coaching the Tampa Bay Bandits. Even then, 28 years ago, Spurrier remembers being the aggressive offensive-minded coach who has made him famous. "We had to run out the clock to win the game, and we were on our own 40 (yard line) with a fourth-and-1 with two minutes left, and they had already burned all of their timeouts," Spurrier said. "And we went for it. I remember somebody saying, 'Did you make it?' and I said that we never found out because the other team lined up offsidess. The fans thought that was the gutsiest call in the world." **Spurrier not overlooking UAB:** After Louisiana-

Monroe came back to defeat No. 8 Arkansas in Fayetteville last week, Spurrier is cautious about this week's game against the Blazers. Coincidentally, UAB's head coach, Garrick McGee, was the offensive coordinator at Arkansas the last two years. "They talk like they got a chance to come in here and beat us, which they do," Spurrier said. "Louisiana-Monroe was a 30-point underdog and beat Arkansas, so I know a lot of stuff can happen. A lot of crap can happen if you allow it to and if you're not ready to play. But we've had some pretty good practices this week because our team has not been very happy with the way they have played thus far."

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Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

South Carolina quarterback Connor Shaw will be a game-time decision for USC's matchup against UAB Saturday.

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Five questions with The Kaleidoscope

Tripp Larsen
The Kaleidoscope Sports Editor

1. What kind of attitude has Garrick McGee brought to UAB?

Garrick McGee has brought a fresh attitude and, for the first time in a while, a positive attitude toward UAB football. UAB has trouble gaining fan support, located between the winners of the last three national championships, Alabama and Auburn, but he has the city talking Blazer athletics again.



Courtesy of MCT Campus

2. Since Arkansas’s offense was so successful against the Gamecocks with McGee as the coordinator, are the Blazers feeling confident about replicating that this weekend?

UAB understands that it would be foolish to think it will be easy to go into Williams-Brice Stadium and move the football easily. However, the players here believe in themselves.

3. Does UAB have an answer for Marcus Lattimore? Which quarterback are the Blazers preparing for?

On stopping Lattimore, McGee said in the press conference, “The way you stop any offense is you play fundamentally sound, you understand your techniques and your schemes and you anticipate which plays are about to be run. You have to win on the first down so that you push them into a second down and a long situation, and that gives you the best chance. But it all starts with being focused understanding our scheme, understanding what they are going to do on offense, playing with the right leverage and tackling.”

On the quarterback situation, he said, “What the film says is that they are a lot more aggressive as an offense. What quarterback (Dylan) Thompson gave them was an opportunity to throw the ball a lot more, which gave Lattimore more room to run. I think what (Connor) Shaw brings to the table is that he’s a competitor and he’s a winner. He’s very tough and competitive. For him to play that [Vanderbilt] game with a hurt shoulder and understand that it was a conference game, he had to sell out right then to win a conference game on the road, and he was able to hang in there and do it. [That] shows a lot to me.”

As for me, obviously you have to scheme around Connor Shaw’s running ability. He carried the team last year once Lattimore was injured, but Thompson has the more accurate arm. It is great to have a dual-threat like USC has, and it will be tough to shut down. Communication is the key to a strong defense.

4. How many times has UL-Monroe’s upset of Arkansas been mentioned this week? What would a win over USC mean for the program and McGee?

It has been mentioned, but no one is really focusing on it. UAB has beaten big-name programs before, including a win over Nick Saban’s LSU team, and it took Tennessee into three overtimes in a game where our kicker missed five field goals, beating the Volunteers in nearly every statistic except for field goal percentage. So UAB knows it has the ability to play with big-time programs, as hopefully we’ll see this week against USC and next week as they take on the Ohio State.

5. Prediction time – who ya got?

The speed, power and depth of the SEC may prove to be too much for UAB. I can see the Blazers hanging around for the first three quarters, but with the lack of depth and inability to stop the run, I think USC will win this one pretty safely.

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DEFENSE

Lawing: ‘They gave in at the end’

Coaches not satisfied after dominant outing

Paulina Berkovich
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The final score of last week’s game against ECU suggests that South Carolina’s defense played a dominant game.

The Gamecocks forced five turnovers, holding the Pirates to 10 points late in the game, after the result was no longer in question.

However, despite the unit’s success at disrupting East Carolina’s offense, USC’s coaches were not satisfied with the defensive performance, especially with the freshmen who came in to replace the starters. As the Gamecocks prepared to face UAB, they will focus on improving their tackling and executing plays.

“We have to show up, tackle, line up properly, communicate,” secondary coach Grady Brown said. “From week to week, I don’t think our job would change much in the secondary ... Every week, we have to get better at open-field tackling. We missed too many tackles last week, and obviously in Week

1. When we miss tackles, bad things happen.”

Cornerback Ahmad Christian and safety T.J. Gurley were among a group of freshmen who had disappointing performances when they took the field in the final minutes.

“At the end of the game, we put our freshmen in,” defensive line coach Brad Lawing said. “I said, ‘There’s no substitutes; there’s no one coming in if you get tired. I want to see if you’ll suck it up.’ They gave in at the end. They all embarrassed their hometowns and their families. I let them know at the end of the game.”

Lawing attributed the new players’ struggles to a major difference in the level of intensity from high school to college football.

“Most of those guys played every snap on defense in high school,” Lawing said. “They didn’t have to rush the quarterback with 600 pounds hanging on them. It’s a new experience. The sooner they learn how to handle that new experience, the better players they’ll become. It’s all a learning experience. It started at that game.”

The amount of playing time the freshmen see this week will depend

on how the game progresses, but the coaches said experience is essential in helping the young players improve and contribute to USC.

“We definitely want to play as many people as we can, because at some point, those guys’ role will increase for this ball club,” Brown said. “Everyone is one play away from being a starter, so you have to prepare yourself as if you’re going to start. You definitely do that in practice, but to get those guys live reps is great. It’s priceless to have an opportunity to play those guys.”

One of the biggest bright spots for USC’s defense against ECU was junior Jimmy Legree, who is back to his natural position of cornerback after playing safety last year. Legree returned his first career interception 34 yards for a touchdown that extended South Carolina’s lead against ECU to 35-0.

“[Brison Williams and I] actually talked right before the snap,” Legree said. “I told him to get over the top because I was jumping at anything short. Fortunately they ran a short route.”

The junior also contributed five tackles and two pass breakups on the afternoon.

“[Legree] is doing a good job,” Brown

said. “He’s making the plays that we’ve all felt like he could make. When opportunity meets preparation, that’s normally what happens. He did a good job of catching the ball and did a good job of lining up properly and having his eyes in the right place. It was good to see him get out there and make a play.”

UAB is coached by Garrick McGee, who spent the last two seasons as the offensive coordinator at Arkansas. Because of his background, the Gamecocks have studied film from the Razorbacks in addition to film from the Blazers’ opening-week loss to Troy. Lawing said UAB’s offense is a blend of passing and running.

“They throw it around good, but they’re going to try to run it too,” Lawing said. “Their line really works hard at being physical.”

No matter the level of the opponent, USC’s defense expects to improve upon its performance from last week and play to its potential until the final snap.

“You have to push and prod,” Lawing said. “And you can never accept mediocrity.”

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Beth Revelle / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cornerback Jimmy Legree (15) received a game ball after his game against East Carolina, where he returned an interception for a touchdown in the 48-10 victory.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Punting main focus for Robinson

Hull remains top punter; new touchback rule benefits USC

Paulina Berkovich
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USC’s offensive outburst against East Carolina minimized the role of special teams in last week’s game, but punting is an area where the Gamecocks could use improvement.

So far this season, South Carolina has averaged 38 yards per punt. Redshirt sophomore Tyler Hull was the starter against ECU and finished with four punts on the day. The longest was 51 yards, but the first was just 32 yards and failed to cross midfield. Consistency has been the biggest challenge for Hull on the year.

“It’s really just technical issues,” special teams coach Joe Robinson said. “You need to be consistent, have a consistent drop, consistent steps and all the things he works on. I believe he’s made a lot of improvement.”

“He’s a long way from his full potential because I think he has a lot of upside. But he’s getting better every week and that’s all we can really ask for.”

Redshirt sophomore Patrick Fish had one punt, which was good for just 24 yards and went out of bounds. Robinson said that while Hull is still the team’s go-to punter, Fish has an opportunity to win the job.

“I think that remains to be seen,” Robinson said. “Mike Williamson is competing for this job also. They’re all doing better. We’re not where we need to be as a group.”

Gamecocks look for more touchbacks: Redshirt freshman Landon Ard has taken over the role of kicker for USC this year. Ard, Robinson said, like the rest of the special teams, has room to improve.

“He’s providing some nice hang time on his kickoffs for us,” Robinson said. “I’m pleased with Landon. It’s going to sound like a broken record, but there are things he can do better. He knows what they are, and he’s working hard on them. We definitely want to get some touchbacks. We want to get more than we’ve

gotten at this point.”

Ard forced two touchbacks against East Carolina, and another kick into the end zone was returned for 23 yards.

New rule helps USC: The NCAA changed rules regarding touchbacks this offseason so the receiving team now starts at its own 25-yard line instead of its 20.

Robinson said the new rule limits the number of kick returns, and since there are so many strong returners in the SEC, it works to South Carolina’s advantage.

“If the rule-makers want to jump in and give us

some help — I think they have because of a reaction to injuries. I don’t think it was any reaction to returners,” Robinson said. “Obviously there are fewer returns this year on kickoff, and on punt people are trying to handle it more schematically.”

“But they’re dangerous, and we play in a league with a bunch of dangerous ones. They can turn a game around. All you have to do is watch the SEC last year to see that, so we’re going to do everything we can to limit returns.”

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Beth Revelle / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Tyler Hull (13) is still the team’s go-to punter after averaging 38 yards per punt but is working on his consistency.



Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

GAMEDAY 411

UAB @ South Carolina

WHERE: Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia, S.C. (capacity of 80,250)

WHEN: Kickoff is scheduled for 7:08 p.m. ET.

THE LINE: South Carolina by 33.5 points

SERIES: South Carolina leads 2-0.

WEATHER: The forecast for the Columbia area Saturday evening calls for partly cloudy skies with a 20-percent chance of precipitation. The high temperature is supposed to be 83 degrees with a low of 63.

LAST MEETING: South Carolina 26-13 in 2008 at Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia, S.C.

IN THE MEDIA

TELEVISION: The game will be televised on Fox Sports Net. Bob Rathbun will handle play-by-play duties. Tim Couch is the color analyst. Elizabeth Moreau is the sideline reporter. A replay will be shown Sunday at 8 p.m. on SportSouth. Andy Demetra will be the play-by-play man, and Brad Muller is the analyst on the replay.

RADIO: Locally, the game will be broadcast on 107.5 FM. Todd Ellis will handle play-by-play duties. Tommy Suggs is the color analyst. Langston Moore is the sideline reporter. Additionally, a simulcast of the Gamecock Radio Network broadcast will be simulcast on SiriusXM Satellite Radio. The game will be on Sirius channel 92 and XM channel 199.

Gameday Information:

All parking lots, including the former farmers market, the Fairgrounds, ETV, Capital City Stadium and the National Guard Armory, will open at 8 a.m. Saturday. Gameday parking will be available in the Fairgrounds for \$40 per space. A limited number of spaces will also be available in the back of the former farmers market. Gas grilling is permitted in the parking lots, but charcoal grilling is prohibited.

Beginning with the 2012 season, the South Carolina Department of Public Safety will be enforcing the NO PARKING zones in the following areas before and during home football games:

- Key Road between the railroad tracks and Idlewide

Boulevard

- South Stadium Road
- National Guard Road between Bluff Road and the last entrance into the old farmers market
- Shop Road between George Rogers Boulevard and Idlewide Boulevard
- Hemlock Road between Bluff Road and Oakdale Street

The NO PARKING zones will be enforced by a combination of parking enforcement officers, City of Columbia police officers and Richland County deputies. If a vehicle is towed from one of these areas, the owner will need to check with the agency responsible for enforcement in that area in order to retrieve the vehicle.

GAMEDAY CHALLENGE

THIS WEEK'S GAMES



Isabelle Khurshudyan
Sports Editor



Paulina Berkovich
Asst. Sports Editor



Kyle Heck
Staff Writer



Austin Price
Design Director

Alabama at Arkansas

UNC at Louisville

Florida at Tennessee

Virginia at Georgia Tech

Southern California at Stanford

Notre Dame at Michigan State

Texas at Ole Miss

Arkansas State at Nebraska

Boston College at Northwestern

UAB at South Carolina

Alabama

Louisville

Tennessee

Georgia Tech

Southern California

Michigan State

Texas

Nebraska

Northwestern

South Carolina 42,
UAB 3

Alabama

Louisville

Tennessee

Georgia Tech

Southern California

Michigan State

Texas

Nebraska

Northwestern

South Carolina 45,
UAB 7

Arkansas

Louisville

Tennessee

Georgia Tech

Southern California

Michigan State

Texas

Nebraska

Northwestern

South Carolina 56,
UAB 14

Alabama

Louisville

Tennessee

Georgia Tech

Southern California

Michigan State

Texas

Nebraska

Boston College

South Carolina 51,
UAB 10

AROUND
THE NATION

Pac-12 duel highlights weekend slate

Colton Menzel
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No. 2 Southern Cal @ No. 21 Stanford, 7:30 p.m., Fox

The USC Trojans have established themselves as the team to beat in 2012, not only in the Pac-12 conference but quite possibly the entire NCAA. Quarterback Matt Barkley remains the frontrunner for the Heisman trophy and has tossed 10 touchdown passes in just two games. The Trojans have had a field day throwing to wide receivers Marqise Lee and Robert Woods, who each have four touchdown receptions already. Meanwhile, the Stanford Cardinal is a team clinging to its Top 25 ranking and struggling to cope with the loss of superstar quarterback Andrew Luck, the first overall pick in the 2012 NFL draft and now a member of the Indianapolis Colts. The Cardinal nearly fell flat on its face in Week 1, sneaking a win by San Jose State 20-17 thanks to a gritty performance from senior running back Stepfan Taylor. Despite a blowout win over Duke last week, the 2012 Stanford team appears to be a mere shell of its 2011 squad.

Wake Forest @ No. 5 Florida State, noon, ESPN

Every year, it seems Florida State is incapable of walking away with a comfortable victory against the Demon Deacons. Despite being favored in each of the last six meetings between the teams, the Seminoles have won only two of those games. In fact, the last three wins Wake Forest has against Top 25 teams have come at the Seminoles' expense. This year, the game is in Tallahassee and will feature a different FSU offense than the one defeated last year in Winston-Salem, N.C. This time, the Seminoles will have a healthy E.J. Manuel at the helm of an offense favored by 70.5 last week over Savannah State, the largest spread in college football history. And the spread could have easily been covered had the game not been called due to inclement weather at the start of the third quarter with the Seminoles leading 55-0. Despite a shaky opener against Liberty, Wake Forest rallied in Week 2 en route to a 28-27 victory over North Carolina. If history is any indication, the Demon Deacons always have a shot against the Seminoles, but they will have their hands full in this one.



Photos courtesy of MCT Campus

North Carolina @ No. 19 Louisville, 3:30 p.m., ABC

The Tar Heels lost a 28-27 heartbreaker last week to Wake Forest after quarterback Bryn Renner threw an interception in the midst of a potential game-winning drive with just more than a minute left. This week, they face a vastly improved Louisville team under the direction of coach Charlie Strong. Strong's Cardinals have started the 2012 season well, with convincing wins over Kentucky and Missouri State. Quarterback Teddy Bridgewater has been effective for the Cardinals thus far, completing an impressive 81.7 percent of his passes. Louisville is certainly a program on the rise in the Big East, while North Carolina is in the early stages of its own rebuilding process under new head coach Larry Fedora. On the road in a hostile environment, the Tar Heels will need an improved performance from Renner if they want to escape Cardinal Stadium with the upset victory.



No. 20 Notre Dame @ No. 10 Michigan State, 8 p.m., ABC

If there is one thing Notre Dame will be able to call itself at the end of the year, it's battle-tested. The Fighting Irish have a brutal schedule from here on out, featuring six ranked opponents, starting with Michigan State this Saturday. When starting quarterback Everett Golson went down with an injury last week late in the fourth quarter with the game tied 17-17 against Purdue, troubled backup Tommy Rees, fresh off a one-game suspension after a scuffle with police at a party this summer, emerged from the bench. Rees led a two-minute drill resulted in a game winning-field goal and a 20-17 Notre Dame victory. However, despite his late game heroics, head coach Brian Kelly assured the media that Golson, not Rees, would be starting this week. Meanwhile, Michigan State blew out an overmatched Central Michigan team 41-7, only a week after a 17-13 win over then-No. 24 Boise State. Junior running back Le'Veon Bell has emerged as an early season Heisman candidate, carrying the load of the Spartan offense while quarterback Andrew Maxwell settles in as the new starter since the departure of Kirk Cousins.



Virginia @ Georgia Tech, 3:30 p.m., ESPNU

It is safe to say that had it not been for Penn State kicker Sam Ficken's inability to kick the ball through the uprights last week, the Virginia Cavaliers would not be undefeated right now. Ficken put on a sad but entertaining display of what not to do as a kicker, missing four of his five attempted field goals last Saturday, including a 42-yarder as time expired that would have won Penn State the game. Instead, Virginia escaped with a 17-16 victory after a lackluster performance on its home turf. This week, the Cavaliers head to Atlanta to face ACC opponent Georgia Tech. Unlike Ficken, Georgia Tech's kicker, David Scully, is perfect on the year. But in all aspects of the game, the Yellow Jackets will be a much more formidable opponent than what the Cavaliers have faced thus far. Head coach Paul Johnson's option offense is always tricky to defend and even had 16th-ranked Virginia Tech on the ropes in week one. However, Georgia Tech ended up losing an overtime heartbreaker to the Hokies. Senior quarterback Tevin Washington is the centerpiece of the Yellow Jacket offense, as he leads the team in both passing and rushing this season. Virginia will have to rely on more than luck and inept kickers this week if it wants to come out of Bobby Dodd Stadium with a win.

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AROUND THE SEC

Florida, Tennessee meet in ranked matchup

Nate Hammet

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No. 18 Florida @ No. 23 Tennessee, 6 p.m., ESPN

ESPN's "College Gameday" travels to Knoxville this weekend for an SEC East showdown in Rocky Top. Tennessee put on a show last week, as Tyler Bray completed 18 of 20 passes for 310 yards against Georgia State. The Volunteers took a commanding 41-6 lead heading into the fourth quarter en route to a 51-13 win. Florida survived a trip to Texas A&M last week, thanks to clutch performances by sophomore quarterback Jeff Driskel and senior running back Mike Gillislee. After falling behind 17-10 in the first half, the Gators completed a comeback with a 12-yard touchdown run by Gillislee in the fourth quarter. Florida leads the all-time series against Tennessee, 22-19, and has won the last seven meetings.

No. 1 Alabama @ Arkansas, 3:30 p.m., CBS

After a humiliating loss to University of Louisiana-Monroe last Saturday, the future looks dim for Arkansas as the Razorbacks host No. 1 Alabama this weekend. During the course of last week's contest, senior quarterback Tyler Wilson left the game with concussion-like symptoms after sustaining a hit above the chest. Details surrounding the impact and extent of the injury remain uncertain. His status for Saturday's game isn't clear, as Wilson did not practice on Tuesday. The Crimson Tide currently boasts a top-ranked defense in the SEC. However, Alabama will be without one of its four key running backs, junior Jalston Fowler, who suffered what appears to be a season-ending knee injury against Western Kentucky last Saturday.

No. 14 Texas @ Ole Miss, 9:15 p.m., ESPN

Ole Miss and Texas each sit at 2-0 as they prepare for Saturday's late-night contest in Oxford, Miss. The Rebels churned out more than 330 rushing yards and 538 total yards of offense when they cruised by UTEP last weekend. The Rebel defense, however, has given up more than 300 yards in its first two matchups. Ole Miss will also be without a key member of the rotation in the defensive backfield due to the fact that freshman Trae Elston was suspended for delivering a "flagrant and dangerous" hit in Saturday's game. Meanwhile, Texas has produced more than 430 yards of offense in its first two contests. Last week, Texas's defense held New Mexico scoreless as the Longhorns marched to a 45-0 victory.

ULM @ Auburn, 12:21 p.m., SEC Network

The upset champions, who defeated then-No. 8 Arkansas last week, look to knock down another SEC West foe in Auburn this Saturday on the Plains. While the University of Louisiana-Monroe currently rejoices in its achievements, the Auburn Tigers are licking their wounds after suffering a 28-10 loss to Mississippi State in Starkville, Miss. Auburn had five turnovers, and quarterback Kiehl Frazier completed only 13 of 22 passes. The Tigers' only touchdown came from Onterio McCalebb's kickoff return. ULM hopes to build off last week's overtime win against the Razorbacks and go 2-0 against SEC opponents this season. The Warhawks amassed 550 yards of offense in the win Saturday.

Idaho @ No. 3 LSU, 8 p.m., PPV

The Tigers look for their third big win this weekend as they host the Idaho Vandals. LSU pummeled the Washington Huskies last Saturday in Baton Rouge, rushing for more than 240 yards. Four running backs from the Tigers' offense had eight or more carries, and quarterback Zach Mettenberger completed 12 of 18 passes for 195 yards. LSU has scored exactly 41 points in the first two games of the season. Idaho (0-2) fell to Bowling Green last week by a score of 21-13. Junior Dominique Blackman had an impressive debut as the Vandals' quarterback, passing for 352 yards and completing 81 percent of his passes. However, yards might be hard to come by this Saturday as the Vandals face the SEC's top defense.

FAU @ No. 7 Georgia, 7:30 p.m., CSS/ESPN3

The Bulldogs enter Week 3 coming



Photos courtesy of MCT Campus

off a win in their first SEC contest of the season. Although Georgia struggled early, it capitalized on Missouri's mistakes in the second half en route to a 41-20 win. Junior quarterback Aaron Murray threw for 242 yards and two touchdowns. Missouri's offense had no answer for the onslaught of junior linebacker Jarvis Jones, who recorded nine tackles, two sacks and an interception. Freshman running back Todd Gurley has led the way for the Bulldogs' rushing game this year with 165 yards on 18 carries. FAU fell to Middle Tennessee last Saturday, despite quarterback Graham Wilbert passing for 260 yards and two touchdowns. Georgia will return to conference play next weekend when it hosts SEC rival Vanderbilt.

Western Kentucky @ Kentucky, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Kentucky is coming off a big win last weekend, when the Wildcats manhandled Kent State. After falling behind 7-0 in the first quarter, Kentucky stormed back to win 47-14. Sophomore quarterback Maxwell Smith completed 30 passes for 354 yards and two touchdowns. The Wildcats also found more than 200 yards of running room against the Golden Flashes as Raymond Sanders led the way with 126 yards. Western Kentucky managed 178 passing yards against Alabama's defense Saturday, but it also committed four turnovers. Kentucky will need to win this game if coach Joker Phillips wants to have any momentum heading into next week's matchup against the Gators in the Swamp.

Mississippi State @ Troy, 7 p.m., ESPN3

After handing Auburn its second loss of the season, Mississippi State will look to build on its recent successful run. Junior quarterback Tyler Russell played a remarkable game, completing 76 percent of his passes for 222 yards and three touchdowns. The defense, which didn't surrender an offensive touchdown, limited Auburn sophomore quarterback Kiehl Frazier to only 125 yards through the air. The Bulldogs also held Auburn's rushing attack to fewer than 100 yards. Troy is preparing to host the Bulldogs after faltering in its home opener against the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. The Trojans threw for more than 500 yards in the loss.

Arizona State @ Missouri, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Saturday night, Missouri got its first taste of SEC football as the Georgia Bulldogs wore down the Tigers in the second half. Missouri fought for the first three quarters, but key turnovers in the second half fumbled the game away. The Tigers did post some impressive statistics, as junior quarterback James Franklin threw for nearly 270 yards against a Georgia defense, albeit a depleted secondary, which ranked among the SEC's elite last season. Meanwhile, Arizona State looks to continue its winning ways and improve to 3-0. Last week, the Sun Devils put up 510 yards of offense and simultaneously limited Illinois to two touchdowns en route to a 45-14 victory. This matchup has the makings of a high-scoring showdown.

Presbyterian @ Vanderbilt, 12:30 p.m., CSS/ESPN3

Vanderbilt suffered a disappointing loss last week, falling to Northwestern. Quarterback Jordan Rodgers barely completed 50 percent of his passes and was sacked three times. Together, Rodgers and running back Zac Stacy netted only 87 yards rushing while giving up 191 rushing yards to Northwestern. Vanderbilt's defense also surrendered more than 300 passing yards. Coach James Franklin desperately needs a big win against Presbyterian to get his team back on track. After an offseason filled with high aspirations, the Commodores find themselves at 0-2 as they prepare to host Presbyterian College in Nashville.

Texas A&M @ SMU, 3:30 p.m., FSN

Texas A&M will look for a win this week against an opponent in its home state. The Aggies fell to Florida last Saturday in their first SEC game as a member of the conference. Despite the loss, freshman quarterback Johnny Manziel made an impressive debut, completing nearly 77 percent of his throws for 173 yards. Texas A&M was held scoreless in the second half after taking a 17-10 lead into the locker room. SMU (1-1) lit up the scoreboard last week, shutting out Stephen F. Austin 52-0. Although SFA gained more total yards than the Mustangs, SMU forced 10 turnovers.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, September 14, 2012
Volleyball vs. Georgia – 7 p.m.
Women's Soccer vs. Mississippi State – 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 15, 2012
Football vs. UAB – 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 15, 2012
Volleyball vs. LSU – 1:30 P.M.
Women's Soccer vs. Missouri – 2 p.m.

Tuesday, September 18, 2012
Men's Soccer vs. Clemson – 7 p.m.

